

The following Reports were ordered to be printed:

REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

Because, probably, of the division of Science into specialties, it becomes increasingly difficult to maintain interest in the meetings of a society devoted, as the Academy is, to research in the entire field of physics and natural history. In the absence of solicited communications taking more or less the form of lectures, and all the more likely to secure a moderate audience if illustrated by lantern views which would be even more attractive could they be presented in the form of moving pictures, there seems no reason, beyond the requirements of routine business, generally irksome, for the holding of the sessions provided for by the by-laws. The practice of reporting in verbal communications the results of current original research has almost entirely ceased, although thirty or forty years ago it was a most important means of sustaining the interest of the meetings, giving distinction to the minutes, and adding to the value of the publications.

When Leidy, or Cassin, or Meehan, or Cope, or Ryder, or Heilprin had found out anything, had a new fact or the confirmation of an old one to tell of, they resorted to the "verbal," a substantive with quite a special significance as used in the Academy. These verbal communications were generally reported by the authors for the pages of the PROCEEDINGS. For some years back, to the impoverishment of the meetings, such contributions to science are either embedded in a formal paper presented for publication and seldom or never read except by title, or they are made known to the world in little notes to *Science* or some other current periodical.

The consideration of a possible remedy for the existing subsidence of interest in the meetings of the Academy has been referred to a committee, and it may be that the result will be beneficial.

Thirteen meetings have been held since last November, with an average attendance of fifty-one—a much higher average than has been recently reported. This is, however, due to the extraordinary attendance on the sessions of the meeting held March 19, 20, and 21, in commemoration of the one hundredth anniversary of the

founding of the Academy. The event was considered memorable by the entire learned world, as evinced by the reception of 405 letters, telegrams and cards of acknowledgment and congratulation from institutions and correspondents and the appointment of 194 delegates by learned societies at home and abroad.

A full report of this most interesting event in the history of the Academy has been printed and distributed as the first part of the fifteenth volume of the quarto JOURNAL. The entire volume has been specially prepared and is now placed before the meeting in a form befitting in its dignity the culmination of the Academy's distinguished contributions to science since 1817, when the publication of the unpretentious first number of the octavo JOURNAL was evidence of the sustained faith of the founders in the dignity of their mission. The contrast of the struggling Academy of 1817, meeting in the little house up Gilliam's Court, with the society as now established and endowed is scarcely greater than that of the first issued volume with the sumptuous quarto just completed.

The centenary meeting was addressed by the Mayor, the President, the Recording Secretary, and twenty-four members and correspondents. Nearly all of the communications, presented also as contributions to the commemorative quarto, were epitomized for the preliminary report in the PROCEEDINGS of last March. The celebration culminated in a banquet attended by 160 delegates, members, and guests, at which eight congratulatory addresses were made after the discussion of an elegant and sufficient bill of fare.

The permanent memorials of the event will consist of the volume of the JOURNAL now on the table, an index to the publications of the Academy brought to the end of 1910, and a history of the society by the Recording Secretary. The commemorative quarto is now before the meeting. The index consists of a record of all the contributions to the JOURNAL and PROCEEDINGS during the period defined, and a reference to every scientific name occurring in the volumes. The alphabetical arrangement of the latter has been completed and about two-thirds of the list is in type, forming the second section of the volume, the first consisting of the catalogue of papers and "verbals." The entire volume will contain about thirteen hundred pages. While the history requires only the final chapter (an account of the centenary celebration) for completion, no arrangement has yet been made for the publication of the volume, as the preparation of the other works referred to has been so engrossing during the year that it would have been impossible

to devote necessary time to the additional task. The reading of the proof of the index, especially, has been most exacting, and occasion is taken to make grateful acknowledgment to Mr. William J. Fox and Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry for efficient assistance in this tiresome and laborious work. Mr. Fox also gave indispensable assistance in the preparation of the centenary volume.

The ordinary meetings have been addressed by Messrs. Leffman, Calvert, Stewardson Brown, Tucker, Bailey, Smith, Harshberger, Dahlgren, Spitzka, Trotter, Bascom, and Skinner.

Fifty-three papers have been presented for publication, as follows: Edgar T. Wherry, 3; James A. G. Rehn and Morgan Hebard, 3; Henry A. Pilsbry and Amos P. Brown, 2; Henry W. Fowler, 2; Edward G. Vanatta, 2; Witmer Stone, 2; Thomas H. Montgomery, 1; John M. Clarke, 1; J. A. Nelson, 1; Carlotta J. Maury, 1; Harriet W. Wardle, 1; Frederick W. True, 1; Henry Skinner, 1; Florence Bascom, 1; George A. Boulenger, 1; John W. Harshberger, 1; Thomas Wayland Vaughan, 1; Spencer Trotter, 1; George Howard Parker, 1; Sir William Thiselton-Dyer, 1; J. W. von Wijhe, 1; Marshall A. Howe, 1; W. J. Holland, 1; William H. Dall, 1; Benjamin Smith Lyman, 1; Henry G. Bryant, 1; A. N. Caudell and Morgan Hebard, 1; John M. Macfarlane, 1; Henry H. Donaldson, 1; George A. Koenig, 1; Thomas H. Morgan, 1; Clarence B. Moore, 1; James E. Ives, 1; Addison E. Verrill, 1; Henry F. Osborn, 1; Harold S. Colton, 1; S. Stillman Berry, 1; W. L. McAtee, 1; T. Fukuda, 1; Edwin G. Conklin, 1; Harold Heath and Ernest B. McGregor, 1; Burnett Smith, 1; Henry A. Pilsbry, 1; H. von Ihering, 1; R. W. Shufeldt, 1.

Four of these have been withdrawn by the authors, twenty-four are contributions to the *JOURNAL*, and the others constitute the portions of the year's *PROCEEDINGS* so far issued.

Mr. Moore's paper concludes the fourteenth volume of the *JOURNAL*. It consists of 161 pages, beautifully illustrated with many halftones in the text and eight superb plates in color, fully sustaining the reputation established by the earlier publications of Mr. Moore, to whom the Academy is as usual indebted for the entire cost of issue.

The commemorative volume of the *JOURNAL* consists of 756 pages and 59 plates, 6 of which are in colors.

Additional publications have been issued during the year as follows: *PROCEEDINGS*, 550 pages, 21 plates; *ENTOMOLOGICAL NEWS*, 484 pages, 20 plates; *TRANSACTIONS OF THE AMERICAN ENTOMO-*

LOGICAL SOCIETY (Entomological Section of the Academy), 400 pages, 3 plates; *MANUAL OF CONCHOLOGY*, 168 pages, 20 plates. The entire issue for the year, therefore, amounts to 2,358 pages and 123 plates.

Nineteen members and four correspondents have been elected. The deaths of twelve members and of six correspondents have been announced, while three members have resigned.

More than a mere record should be made of the loss sustained by the Academy in the deaths of Edward Potts and Thomas Harrison Montgomery. Mr. Potts had been forced by impaired health to discontinue, a few years ago, his active association with the Academy, but his interest in science remained unabated to the last. His work on the natural history of the fresh-water sponges, the results of which the Academy had the honor of publishing, has been recognized as of singular accuracy and thoroughness.

Dr. Montgomery was the first contributor to the commemorative volume, and the announcement of his death at the first session of the centenary meeting was a pathetic incident of the proceedings. Appropriate action was taken by the Academy, an appreciative minute, prepared by Dr. Calvert, having been placed on the minutes and published.

The Hayden Medal, on the recommendation of the properly constituted committee, was awarded to Professor John C. Branner, of the Leland Stanford Jr. University, in recognition of his distinguished work in geology.

Daniel J. Fay, Robert Rosenbaum, and Delos E. Culver have served terms as Jessup Fund students.

The will of the late Mrs. Catherine E. Beecher provides for the endowment of the J. F. Beecher Memorial Laboratory for the study of Biology and Anthropology in the Academy. The amount of the fund, not yet definitely reported, is to be invested for ten years before the income can be available. The proper officers have been instructed to prepare the papers required by the acceptance of the legacy.

The popular evening course of free lectures, conducted in conjunction with the Ludwick Institute, was given as usual on Monday and Thursday evenings, January 8 to March 7:—

Three lectures on Familiar Birds and their Life Histories were delivered by Mr. Witmer Stone; one on The Organization of the Pennsylvania Department of Health by Dr. B. F. Royer; one on The Purity of the Streams of Pennsylvania by Mr. F. Herbert Snow; three on Entomology by Dr. Henry Skinner; three on Problems

in the Study of Faunas by Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry; three on Studies in Local Plant Life by Mr. Stewardson Brown, and two on Ancient and Modern Man by Dr. Spencer Trotter.

The afternoon course for students of the Girls' High Schools of Philadelphia, inaugurated last year, was continued, beginning October 2, and was largely attended.

Two lectures each were delivered by the following speakers: Dr. Henry A. Pilsbry, on Crustacea and Mollusks; Dr. J. Percy Moore, on Reptiles and Mammals; Mr. Witmer Stone, on Birds; Mr. Stewardson Brown on Plants; and one each by Dr. Philip P. Calvert and Dr. Henry Skinner, on Insects.

It is manifest that the year has been one of unusual interest and activity, and there is no reason to doubt that the fine record commemorated last March will be continued during the next century, although conditions, which have already changed, may undergo further modification. A reasonable prediction as to what these modifications may be when the second centenary of the Academy will be celebrated by our successors in March, 2012, would be a matter of serious interest could it now be made.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,
Recording Secretary.

REPORT OF CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

During the year the deaths of the following-named correspondents occurred: Sir Joseph D. Hooker, Professor John Duns, Professor Eduard Strasburger, and Professor Rudolph Hoernes. The death of the Reverend Stephen Bowers in 1907 and of Professor Adolph Bastian at an unascertained date were also announced. Elections of correspondents were as follows: Professor Viktor Goldschmidt, Dr. Carlotta J. Maury, Professor John Casper Branner, and Dr. Charles Haskins Townsend.

Invitations to participate in the following-named events were received: The annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association; the XIIIth International Congress of Americanists, at which the Academy was represented by Sir Thomas Lauder Brunton; the XIVth International Congress of Anthropology and Prehistoric Archeology; the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Academy of Sciences, Belles-Lettres, and Arts of Bordeaux; the XXIst annual convention of the German Dendrological Society; the Second International Congress of Entomology, to which Dr.